

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 COTONO 01400 261000Z  
ACTION SCS-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 PPTE-00 PER-05 SS-15  
NSC-05 USIA-15 PC-05 AID-05 COME-00 OC-06 CCO-00  
DHA-05 L-03 H-02 DODE-00 /083 W  
-----067595 261130Z /14

R 260930Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY ACCRA  
AMCONSUL IBADAN  
AMCONSUL KADUNA  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY  
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0012

UNCLAS COTONOU 1400

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CASC  
SUBJ: TRAVEL TO BENIN

1. WHILE THERE NO NEW ARRESTS OF AMCITS IN BENIN FOR ABOUT  
ONE MONTH, WE HAVE HAD SOME CLOSE CALLS, INCLUDING ONE INDIVID-  
UAL WITH OFFICIAL PASSPORT.

2. RECENTLY TOURISTS BEING TURNED AWAY AT BORDER FOR IMPROPER  
DRESS. OTHERS HAVE BEEN TOLD THEY CANNOT ENTER BENIN EXCEPT  
DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS. WE KNOW TWO INCIDENTS OF TOURISTS BEING  
TOLD THEY MUST SURRENDER PASSPORTS AT FRONTIER, FOR RETURN UPON  
DEPARTURE FROM COUNTRY. IN ONE CASE WHEN TOURISTS SAID THEY  
WERE CONTINUING THROUGH BENIN INTO NIGERIA, THEY WERE PERM-  
ITTED TO RETAIN PASSPORTS. BOTH THESE PARTIES ORDERED TO GO  
TO OFFICE OF TOURISM AND HOTELS IN COTONOU IMMEDIATELY AND  
OBTAIN "TOURIST REGISTRATION CARDS." TOURIST OFFICE GAVE THEM  
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COPIES OF DECREE ON WHAT IS OR IS NOT PERMISSIBLE TO PHOTOGRAPH,  
WHICH ISSUED IN 1974 AND IF FOLLOWED, WOULD RESULT IN THEIR  
BEING JAILED. FOREIGN MINISTRY PROTOCOL OFFICE UNAWARE OF  
ABOVE-CITED NEW PROCEDURES.

3. WE CONTINUE TO URGE THAT ALL NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL TO BENIN  
BY AMCITS BE DISCOURAGED. THOSE WHO ARE TRAVELING SHOULD BE

ADVISED OF ABOVE PROBLEMS, THAT RULES IN BENIN ARE WHIMSICAL  
AND SUBJECT TO SUDDEN CHANGE WITHOUT WARNING, AND UNDER NO  
CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD PHOTOS BE TAKEN. CREAGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRAVEL CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 26-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977COTON001400  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770309-0288  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** COTONOU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770820/aaaaaqjq.tel  
**Line Count:** 65  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** db79e852-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SCS  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1476747  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TRAVEL TO BENIN  
**TAGS:** CASC, OTRA  
**To:** ABIDJAN ACCRA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/db79e852-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009